

Faculty Senate Minutes
Riggle Room
Morehead, KY
March 26, 2015

Call to Order: 4:10 p.m.

Senators: Ritta Abell, Annie Adams, Sanjeev Adjikari, Royal Berglee (Regent, ex officio), David Butz, Katy Carlson, Ophelia Chapman, Doug Chatham, Timothy Conner, Marcia Cooper, Verdie Craig, Jennifer Dearden, Mattie Decker, Nathan Dishman, Noel Earl, Vanessa Flannery, Michael Fultz, Lynn Geurin (Excused), Cyndi Gibbs, Gina Gonzalez, Timothy Hare, Kenneth Henderson, John Hennen, Julia Hypes, Eric Jerde, Rebecca Katz, Thomas Kiffmeyer (Excused), Donna Kizzier, Beverly Klecker, Christine Lange, Jennifer Little, Brian Mason, Rus May, Beverly McCormick (Excused), Sam Nataraj, Sean O'Keefe, Steven Ralston (Provost, ex officio), Steven Reid, Gilbert Remillard, Sandra Riegle, Brent Rogers, Chad Rogers, Robert Royar, (Chair), Sherry Stultz, Kim Sharp, Bo Shi (Excused), Joyce Stubbs (Excused), Cathy Thomas, Sherry Surmont (Secretary), and Yuqiu You

Senators Absent Are Underlined Above

Senate Actions:

1. **Motion:** To add Provost Ralston's comments to the 2/26/15 Faculty Senate Minutes (**Senator May**)
Vote: Failed (6 Yes, 14 No, and 10 Abstentions)
2. **Motion:** To approve 2/26/15 Faculty Senate Minutes (**Senator Katz**)
Vote: Passed
3. **Motion:** To approve 3/12/15 Faculty Senate Minutes (**Senator Chatham**)
Vote: Passed
4. **Motion:** To approve PAc 22 (**Senator Fultz on behalf of Faculty Welfare & Concerns**)
Vote: Passed
5. **Motion:** To extend the meeting 10 minutes (**Senator Katz**)
Vote: Failed (Did not meet 2/3 rule)

New Business:

1. Senator Adams: Resolution regarding administrative time frames. (Attached)

Announcements:

1. Reminder that Senators need to sign in before each meeting.
2. Next meeting April 2, 2015 @ 4:10 PM in the Riggle Room.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:58 PM

Minutes Taken By: Sherry Surmont, Faculty Senate Secretary

3/31/2015 1:32 PM

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Whereas the administration

- requested that the Faculty Senate revise PAC-26 in 2008 and still has not acknowledged the revision (titled PAC 35) that was passed by the Senate that same year;
- directed, at some point in 2013 or 2014, without informing or involving faculty, University Counsel to draft new versions of PAC-26 and PAC-22 in consultation with outside legal representation;
- reviewed multiple drafts of PAC-26 and PAC-22 at the administrative level, still not informing or involving faculty;
- delayed involving faculty until October 2014, when they provided the Executive Council of the Senate with the University Counsel's versions of PAC-26 and PAC-22;
- prohibited the Executive Council from circulating these versions until the start of the Spring semester in 2015 and set the end of the same semester as the final date for fully revised versions of these PACs, repeatedly rejecting the Senate's request for more time to complete this important task;
- demanded that the Senate's work on PACs 26 and 22 be an "iterative process" wherein Senate work must be submitted to the administration for review and comment without recognizing the importance of allowing for faculty review and comment at various early stages as the administration created revised versions of these PACs;
- encumbered the Senate with this work during the same semester that the 2014-2015 Self-Study was released to faculty and faculty were charged with drafting responses to the reorganizational decisions and administrative fiats in said Self-Study;
- agreed, on multiple occasions, that the timing of the revisions was "unfortunate," as it was coterminous with University Counsel's frequent absence from campus (due to the state legislature being in session) and the finalization of the Self-Study;
- asserted its right to ignore whatever revisions of the PACs the President deems unacceptable and present the Board of Regents with only the versions of the PACs of which the President approves; and
- utilized the channels of communication that were purportedly created in the original audit of 2005— and allegedly widened in the successive studies, reports, and organizational restructurings that followed—merely for administrative pronouncements and not for genuine dialogue between faculty and the administration; and

Whereas the faculty and the Faculty Senate as its representative body

- have worked in good faith with the administration to complete the various tasks asked of them;
- have endured repeated reviews, self-studies, and reorganizations, all of which have proven short-lived and inadequate, resulting in no genuine progress;
- devote considerable time and energy to service work, despite substantial teaching loads, advising responsibilities, and professional obligations; and
- remain committed to the ideal of shared governance;

Therefore be it resolved that the faculty and the Faculty Senate as its representative body are entitled to a demonstration that the administration is indeed working in good faith with the faculty, a demonstration that includes, but is not limited to,

- recognition of the work faculty has already done to meet administrative demands;
- prioritization of current and future tasks that includes reasonable time frames for completion;

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- justification for “unfortunate coincidences” in overlapping time frames for administratively defined faculty service work, justifications that address the relationship between and among the tasks that the administration is asking faculty to complete concurrently; and
- acknowledgement of the fact that Senate is a democratically elected representative body that does speak for the faculty.

Furthermore, the Senate calls upon the administration to

- recognize how many of the problems the institution is currently encountering are the product of manufactured cycles of foreseeable crises, wherein multiple problems are purportedly dealt with all at once, only to be revisited again a few years hence because the quick-fix posed in the past proves inadequate;
- respect the proper role of faculty in the governance of this or any institution of higher learning; and
- seek a genuine dialogue with faculty, staff, and students.